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The Democratic Isolationists

The opposition to the Central Intelligence Agency among liberal Democrats in Congress has now reached the point that it appears they may be trying to destroy the CIA.

In addition to publishing names of CIA agents, Democratic congressional leaders are believed to be the ones leaking much of the secret information about the CIA's covert operations to the press.

An "authoritative source" has now leaked information about a \$6 million covert CIA program for funneling aid to anti-Communist political leaders in Italy.

Recently the Senate voted 54 to 22 to cut off covert funds to anti-Communist factions fighting in Angola.

Democrats in Congress thus are becoming totally isolationist, blocking not only conventional aid to threatened nations in the form of economic assistance and military hardware but also covert aid from the CIA.

This is bound to have a disastrous effect if it is continued because the Russians are increasing their aid to Communist movements around the world. The United States is the only superpower in the world that can stand up to Russian intervention in non-Communist countries.

If the Democratic isolationists are allowed to stop all aid to nations that have been marked for takeover by the Kremlin, then what will stop the Russians from moving in wherever they choose around the world? Nothing, of course, because there is no other nation outside the U.S. that has the power required to confront the Soviet Union's aggressive acts.

In their zeal to embarrass and frustrate the CIA, the critics of the \$6 million in aid to Italy's anti-Communist leaders have lost sight of the fact that Italy is a pivotal nation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The fact is that the Communists are getting close to gaining control in Italy. They caused the latest fall of the Italian government—the 32nd since the end of World War II—by withdrawing their support from a fragile coalition with the Christian Democrats and Republicans.

The Democratic retreat into total isolationism really is getting dangerous when members of Congress are more concerned about CIA aid going into Italy than in saving this European ally from totalitarianism.

It is reminiscent of the frantic attempts that Neville Chamberlain made to try to appease Hitler just prior to World War II.